

Remarks

The Examiner has required restriction of the claims of this application under 35 U.S.C. § 121 into one of the following Groups:

- I. Claims 1-2, 10-36 (in part) drawn to a method for "cleaving single-stranded nucleic acid sequences at a desired location";
- II. Claims 3-6, 10-36 (in part) drawn to a method for "displaying a member of a diverse family of peptides ... on the surface of a genetic package";
- III. Claims 7-9, drawn to a product described as a library; and
- IV. Claims 37-41 drawn to a method for "preparing single-stranded nucleic acids for cloning into a vector."

The Examiner contends that the inventions of Group I-IV are patentably distinct.

Applicants elect Group III claims for further prosecution. This election is made expressly without waiver of applicants' right to file divisional or continuing applications directed to the inventions of the claims in the non-elected Groups and claiming priority and benefit from this application under 35 U.S.C. § 120.

Applicants intend to request rejoinder of claims 1-6, 37 and corresponding dependent claims with the elected group if and when any of the Group III claims are found allowable. Accordingly, applicants have not canceled these claims.

The Examiner has also stated that if applicants elect Group III, applicants are further required to elect a single species from Subgroups 1-11 (Subgroups 6 and 8 are the same) for search purposes.

Applicants have made the required election as follows:

Subgroup 1: Species of nucleic acid (see claims 7-9). Elected: Single stranded;

Subgroup 2: Species of what nucleic acid encodes (see claims 11-19). Elected: FR1;

Subgroup 3: Species of autoimmune disease (see claim 18). Elected: Lupus;

Subgroup 4: Species of isolated cells (see claim 20). Elected: blood cells;

Subgroup 5: Species of amplification (see claims 21-22). Elected: amplification with geneRACE;

Subgroup 6: Species of temperature (see claims 23-25). Elected: 55°C;

Subgroup 7: Species of single-stranded oligonucleotide length (see claims 26-27); 20 bases;

Subgroup 8: Species of temperature (see claims 23-25). Elected: 55°C;

Subgroup 9: Species of restriction endonuclease (see claims 28-29). Elected: MaeIII;

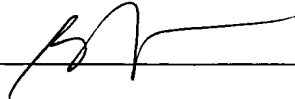
Subgroup 10: Species of length of single-stranded region of double stranded oligonucleotide (see claims 31-32). Elected: 7 bases; and

Subgroup 11: Species of genetic package (see claims 3-6). Elected: phage

Should the Examiner feel that a telephone conference with applicants' representatives would assist the Examiner, he is invited to telephone the undersigned at any

time. Applicants request favorable consideration and early allowance of the pending claims.

Respectfully submitted,



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